(b) out of which what amount has been actually spent in repairing the road in 1103;

(c) if the whole amount has not been spent, what is the reason for it;

(d) whether the balance of the sanctioned amount will be utilised for the same purpose and if so, when;

(e) whether the repairing of the road is now over and if not, when will it be over?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) Rs. 7,500.

(b) The expenditure on the work was Rs. 1,653-5-7 and this was for the collection of materials.

(c) Default on the part of the contractor for the work.

(d) The amount of the estimate is Rs. 6,300. The balance in the estimate is expected to be spent before the end of 1104.

(e) It is expected to be over by the end of 1104.

Lump allotment for irrigation.

221. **Mr. C. Barton Wright.**—Will the Government be pleased to inform:—

(a) whether the lump allotment for irrigation in the current year's budget is already spent on any original work; if so,

(b) on which irrigation project;

(c) whether regard being had to the great water scarcity of Trichur they mean allowing any large amounts to remedy the grievances of the public of Trichur?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) A proposal for meeting the scarcity of water at Trichur has just been sanctioned by the Government. Vide copy of the D. P. appended (*Appendix I*).

Appointment of the Special Officer.

222. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the work done by the Special Officer Mr. P. Damodara Menon during the month of Chingam, and place on the Table a copy of his diary of work done;

(b) whether he sought permission of the Government to visit Madras, Bombay and some other places; and, if so, for what purpose and what was the nature of the reply given to him?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) The work done by the Special Officer cannot be disclosed as it is of a confidential nature.

(b) There has been no visit to Bombay yet. It was with the permission of the Government that visits were made to such of

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the places visited by him. As regards the purpose of the visit, please see answer (a).

223. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of appointing the permanent Chief Engineer as the permanent Special Officer ex-officio when Mr. P. Damodara Menon reverts to his permanent appointment, regard being had to the former's knowledge of engineering and other works, considerably supplemented even by his recent visit to the Continent?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Government do not think it necessary to consider the question now. Mr. Damodara Menon's term has already been extended for a further period of six months.

Extension of service of Mr. P. Damodara Menon.

224. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether Mr. Damodara Menon was ordered to be retired in 1103 in the printed proceedings issued in 1102; if so, what were the special reasons for giving him extension;

(b) were there not officers in service to fill up Devaswam Commissioner's place;

(c) was not the present acting Devaswam Commissioner appointed to that post 10 days after Mr. Damodara Menon was given extension;

(d) how does Mr. Damodara Menon's case differ from those of Mr. P. Narayana Menon, ex-Judge of the Chief Court, and Mr. K. T. Thomas, Superintendent of Registration;

(e) are not the names of Messrs. Vengu Ayyar, K. Kochunni Menon and A. P. Antony included in the printed proceedings of officers ordered to be retired in 1104;

(f) do Government contemplate to reconsider the case of those officers to give them further extension; if so, is it because there are no competent officers in service to replace them?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) Yes. Extension was granted later for the reasons contemplated in Article 201, C. S. R.

(b) There might have been; but no necessity arose at the time to consider this question.

(c) Yes.

(d) Each case was considered on its own merits and orders passed.

(e) Yes.

(f) No statement can be made on the subject at present.

225. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) when does the present period of extension given to Mr. P. Damodara Menon expire;

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